

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 REYKJA 00252 211015Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 INR-10 LAB-04  
NSAE-00 SIL-01 PA-01 SP-02 USIA-06 /045 W  
-----105266 211032Z /13-11

R 210851Z FEB 78  
FM AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8167  
INFO AMEMBASSY OSLO  
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM  
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN  
AMMBASSY HELSINKI 955  
COMICEDEFOR  
CINCLANT  
CINCEUR

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E.O. 11652/ N/A  
TAGS: ELAB, IC  
SUBJECT: ICELANDIC NEWSPAPERMEN BEGIN STRIKE

1. MEMBERS OF ICELANDIC JOURNALISTS UNION BEGAN STRIKE MID-NIGHT FEBRUARY 16 IN SUPPORT OF CLAIMS WHICH WOULD GIVE THEM PAY PARITY WITH RADIO AND TELEVISION JOURNALISTS. EDITIONS OF FEBRUARY 17 WILL BE LAST DAILY PAPERS UNTIL SETTLEMENT REACHED.

2. UNION CONTENTS QUALIFICATIONS AND STANDARS ARE SAME FOR BOTH PRINTED AND ELECTRONIC MEDIA AS ARE WARKING CONDITIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES, THEREFORE PAY SHOULD BE THE SAME. (RADIO AND TV JOURNALISTS NOW EARN 30 PERCENT MORE THAN NEWSPAPERMEN.) UNION DEMANDS ALSO INCLUDE COMPLEX FORMULA FOR RETROACTIVE PAY INCREASES FROM JULY 1977.

3. PUBLISHERS COUNTER THAT UNION'S KEY DEMAND IS THAT  
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BEGINNERS RECEIVE SAME WAGE AS EXPERIENCED AND/OR EDUCATED TV REPORTER; THAT THEY NOW OFFER SOME WAGES FOR SIMILAR EXPERIENCE AND EDUCATION AS ELECTRONIC MEDIA AND THAT THEY RECEIVE FRINGE BENEFITS VALUED AT 14 - 20 THOUSAND KRONUR PER MONTH.

4. COMMENT:

NEWSPAPER JOURNALISTS WERE NOT INCLUDED IN JULY 1977  
WAGE AGREEMENT SINCE UNION NOT MEMBER OF ICELANDIC  
FEDERATION OF LABOR (IFL). ISSUE COMPLICATED NOW BY  
FACT THAT PUBLISHERS HAVE SUBSEQUENTLY JOINED FEDERA-  
TION OF MANUFACTURERS, WHICH APPARENTLY OBLIGATES THEM  
TO CONFORM TO JULY 1977 WAGE AGREEMENT. FACT THAT IFL  
AGREEMENT ITSELF NOW BEING RENOUNCED BY GROWING NUMBER  
OF UNIONS BECAUSE OF CONTROVERSIAL GOI ECONOMIC MEASURES  
PASSED BY PARLIAMENT FEBRUARY 16 (REYKJAVIK 251 (DTG  
171640Z FEB 78) WILL FURTHER COMPLICATE EFFORTS TO  
SETTLE NEWSPAPER STRIKE.

BLAKE

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** NEWSPAPERS, LABOR STRIKES, THE PRESS  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 21 feb 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
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**Disposition Reason:**  
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